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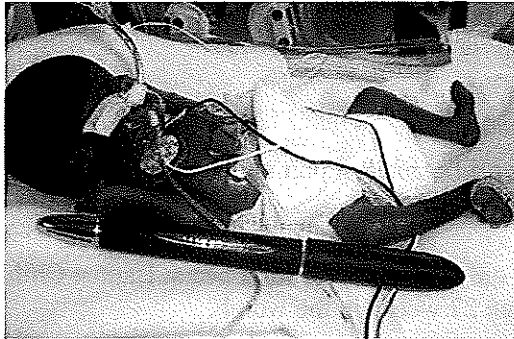
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4th District, Virginia



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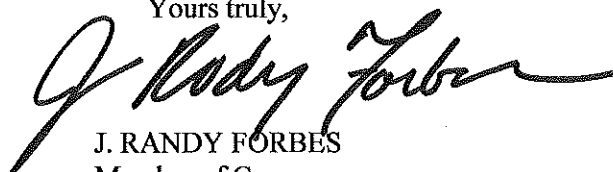
Dear Colleague,

I commend your attention to the following article about the birth of this miracle baby, Amillia Taylor. Born after only 21 weeks and 6 days in the womb, she beat all the odds by becoming the youngest documented premature infant to survive. Her doctor, William Smalling said that she possessed a strong will to survive, and "she made efforts at breathing, an attempt to cry at birth, so when she was assessed at the delivery, she showed signs she may have been mature enough to survive, and she proved us right." Just this week, another baby born after only 22 weeks in the womb has been sent home with her mother and father in the UK, sparking a new abortion debate in Great Britain.

The recent Partial Birth Abortion trials brought to light medical evidence that unborn children feel pain as early as 20 weeks after fertilization. As a common-sense measure to ensure that women are given full information about the capacity of unborn children to feel pain and her options to mitigate that pain, last year the House considered H.R. 6099, the Unborn Child Pain Awareness Act. H.R. 6099 would have increased awareness about the pain experienced by the unborn child in his or her mother's womb. The act would have required those who perform abortions on unborn children 20 weeks after fertilization to inform the woman seeking an abortion of the medical evidence that the unborn child feels pain and give her the option to request pain mitigating drugs for her baby.

Unfortunately, H.R. 6099 failed to pass the House, and unborn children, just like Amillia continue to be aborted without pain mitigating drugs. Women deserve to know that their babies have the ability to feel pain, let alone the ability to cry, breath and even survive outside the womb. I ask that you consider the Unborn Child Pain Awareness Act when it is reintroduced in the 110th Congress. With kind personal regards, I am

Yours truly,


J. RANDY FORBES
Member of Congress



Tiny Preemie Gets OK to Leave Hospital

Parents of One of World's Tiniest Preemies Get to Take Her Home From Hospital

The Associated Press

MIAMI - Parents of one of the world's smallest premature babies got to take her home Wednesday for the first time since she was delivered last fall.

Amillia Sonja Taylor has known only an incubator for a bed at Baptist Children's Hospital since she was delivered in October after less than 22 weeks in the womb.

"The baby is healthy and thriving and left Baptist Children's Hospital today after four months in our neonatal intensive care unit," hospital spokeswoman Liz Latta said.

Amillia, who was just 9 1/2 inches at birth and weighed less than 10 ounces, will still require oxygen at home and a developmental specialist will follow up with her and her parents to track her neurological development.

The infant now weighs about 4 1/2 pounds and is just over 15 1/2 inches long.

Amillia's parents, Eddie and Sonja Taylor of Homestead declined to speak with reporters Wednesday.

Doctors had hoped to release Amillia from the hospital Tuesday but kept her an extra day to monitor a low white blood cell count that could have indicated a vulnerability to infection.

Full-term births come after 37 to 40 weeks, and few babies born before 22 weeks survive.

Amillia suffered respiratory and digestive problems, as well as a mild brain hemorrhage, but doctors believe those problems will not have major long-term effects.

Amillia was conceived in vitro and was delivered by Caesarean section after an infection caused her mother to go into premature labor, doctors said.

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